

# TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

Published every evening, Sunday excepted, by the Tonopah Bonanza Printing Co., Incorporated

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Terms of Subscription for the Daily Bonanza  
One Year, by Mail, \$12.00 One Month, Delivered by Carrier, \$1.00  
Six Months, by Mail, \$6.00 Single Copies, each, 10c

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Entered at the postoffice at Tonopah as second class matter, Official Paper for the County of Nye and the Town of Tonopah.

## THE PATENT OFFICE.

Things have reached a pass in the United States patent office that calls for some sort of remedy. The force of patent examiners in that bureau number 430 and in 42 months no less than 221, or 44 per cent, have resigned. There are now 60,000 patent applications on file in the office which must all be taken up and considered in their order. Sixty years ago in patent examiners was paid \$2400 a year, the salary of a congressman then received. Today a patent examiner's maximum salary is \$2700, a 12 1/2 per cent increase over 1890 while our agricultural salaries have increased 221 per cent. Of the 400 examiners authorized, 220 are paid for but 48, while about 100 receive \$1000.

Today the patent office is said to be breaking down as it is called upon to receive young men just out of college who work there until they are the heads of things and then are exalted by the industrial community or take up the privilege of patenting. It is said that the General Electric company the Westinghouse company, the National Cash Register company the United Shoe Machinery company the Victor company and many others maintain high priced experts and are always on the lookout for young men who have had experience in patent work.

There is at present a bill before congress to increase the pay of these men. There have been many bills introduced heretofore for that purpose but they have failed in one house or the other. Not one man in 50,000 could pick the examination taking three days which the civil service requires and rightfully so, on applicants. They embrace higher mathematics, intricate drawings of machinery, civil, electrical and mechanical engineering, chemical formulas and German and French. The patent office is a profit-producing concern and the money to run it does not come out of the pockets of the taxpayers. For that reason, if for no other, the bill increasing the pay of these men should be expedited.

## BIRDS IN THEIR LITTLE NESTS AGREE.

The Washington conference is characterized by a total absence of the bickering that featured the Paris peace conference. The secretaries that were continually taking place behind the scenes in Paris are wholly lacking at Washington. Not only do the delegates profess a friendship for one another, and a sincere desire to expedite the limitation of armaments program as outlined by Secretary Hughes, but they are carrying out their public statements by their actions. Great Britain, at first inclined to offer some reservations to the Hughes program, now has come out for it unreservedly. Japan is seeking to have one of her newest battleships that is included in the Hughes list of vessels to be scrapped, but with the United States and Great Britain sponsoring the same program, it is probable she will give way. In discussions concerning the open door policy in China, the first approach toward a settlement of the far eastern difficulties, there is shown a similar determination by all to take the steps that will contribute most toward world peace. Every nation has agreed to the policy of equal opportunity in China. If every proposition that comes before the conference can be settled as promptly and amicably as these thus far discussed, the conference will establish a record of achievement scarcely dreamed of by its most ardent proponents.

## STATUS OF TARIFF BILL.

The balance of the year will be devoted by congress to clearing the decks for the passage of the Fordney-Penrose tariff bill. That bill will occupy the attention of congress to the exclusion of other legislative matters beginning the first part of the new year.

A review of legislative action concerning the tariff bill is pertinent at this time. Considerable preliminary action had been taken in 1920 toward its consideration in the house. January 6 of this year, formal hearings on the tariff question were initiated, proceeding until February 16. Importers and manufacturers, without partiality, were given audience by the ways and means committee, so that in no sense could the measure be said to favor one class more than another.

June 29 the tariff bill was sub-

mitted to the house and promptly referred to the ways and means committee. July 6 it was formally reported back to the house and debate began, extending to July 21 when the bill was passed by a vote of 288 to 127. The bill was a trade protection measure designed to the campaign promises of the Republican party for the revision of the tariff as soon as conditions should make it necessary for the protection of the home market for American labor, agriculture and industry. During the month of calendar year the tariff was approximately 100 per cent higher than it was in 1914. Meanwhile, and while the bill was under debate, agriculture was threatened with a terrible amount of food being taken abroad and there was an eastern demand from the agricultural interests that something be done immediately for them. They did not think the situation would wait for the final adoption of the general tariff bill. So, on May 27, the emergency tariff bill was passed which granted protection to farm products.

July 22 the general tariff bill was referred to the House committee on ways and means which determined after considerable discussion had been brought to bear, to hold supplementary hearings which commenced on July 25 and which were continued daily until congress recessed late in August because of the absolute exhaustion of many of the members.

During this recess there was an extraordinary movement all over the country to induce congress to give priority in legislation to the tariff bill and since the agricultural interests had been taken care of by way of the emergency tariff, and imports were falling off, congress was the more ready to bow to this opinion. So, on September 21, the tax bill moved up to replace the tariff bill, and the former was passed November 7. The tariff bill carried some thought of an innovation in what is known as the "American valuation" clause, which bases all valuations of goods on the domestic selling price and wishing to secure all the information possible on that subject, the senate appointed a committee to undertake an exhaustive investigation of the matter. That investigation has been going on for some time, and as it proceeds it strengthens the belief of the majority in the feasibility of the clause. There is no doubt that it will be retained in the final draft of the bill.

A few days ago the emergency tariff bill was again extended, this time until the general tariff bill becomes a law; and supplemental hearings are being held by the senate to clarify disputed points respecting certain agricultural products. It is confidently predicted that the Fordney-Penrose tariff bill will become a law not later than the first part of March, 1922.

## THE ROMANCE OF WORDS

### "COUNTY."

WHEN a Saxon king created an earl, it was the natural thing that he should be endowed with a certain section of land over which he held jurisdiction, therefore a "share" of ground was assigned to him to govern—a custom to which the English "shire" is directly traceable. But, at the time of the Norman conquest, the Saxon earls were replaced by Norman counts, titles borrowed from the later Roman empire and originally meaning "companion," one who had the honor of being closest to his leader. The "shares" or "shires" therefore became "counties" or lands governed by the counts. In that singular fortune of words which causes some to disappear even under circumstances most favorable to their life, while others hold their own when everything seems to oppose them, the title "count" has vanished from the roster of British nobility and "earl" has recovered its place, though the wife of an earl is still known as a "countess," thus proving the essential identity of the two words. In England the "shire" and the "county" still survive, while county is the accepted American term and shire remains only in names, which, like New Hampshire, have been imported bodily from across the Atlantic.

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## 850 DISASTER DEATH TOLL FOR ONE YEAR

Red Cross Gives \$1,871,000 Relief When 65,000 Families Are Made Homeless.

Forty-three disasters, resulting in the death in the United States of 850 persons and the injury of 2,500 called for emergency relief measures and the expenditure of \$1,871,000 by the American Red Cross during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, says an announcement based upon the forthcoming annual report of the Red Cross. These disasters caused property damage estimated at \$30,000,000, affected sixty-seven communities and rendered 65,000 families homeless.

The year's disasters were of varying types, including several which previously had never been thought of as falling within that classification. The Red Cross furnished relief in seventeen fires of magnitude, five floods, seven tornadoes or cyclones, one devastating storm, three epidemics, including the one in Wall Street, one building accident, two typhoid epidemics, the most serious being that at Salina, Ohio, which affected 10 per cent of the population; one smallpox epidemic, in the republic of Haiti, one train wreck, the race riot at Tulsa, Okla., the famine in China, emergency relief in famine among the Indians of Alaska, the grasshopper plague in North Dakota and an earthquake in Italy.

By far the most severe of the disasters in the United States during the period covered by the Red Cross report was the Pueblo flood early in June, 1921. The rehabilitation problem confronting the Red Cross in Pueblo was one of the most difficult in recent years. When the first news of the horror was flashed throughout the country, the American Red Cross National Headquarters responded with a grant of \$105,000 for relief work. Governor Shoup of Colorado, appreciating the long and successful experience of the Red Cross in organizing disaster relief work, placed the entire responsibility for the administration of relief in its hands.

In response to appeals from President Harding, Governor Shoup and other governors of western states and through local chapters of the Red Cross and other community organizations, public-spirited citizens brought the total contributed for Pueblo's rehabilitation to more than \$325,000. The terrible havoc wrought by the flood waters is a matter of record. More than 2,300 homes were affected and 7,351 persons were left homeless. Estimates of \$500,000 as an absolute minimum for rehabilitation were made by Red Cross officials in charge of the relief work.

Fast Work in Wall Street. The Wall Street situation was notable in that relief workers of the Red Cross were on the scene twenty minutes after the disaster occurred. The raw riot at Tulsa also was unique in disaster relief annals in that outside of a small emergency relief fund contributed by the Red Cross, the only relief measures outside the city consisted of the service of social workers, nurses and a trained executive whose object was to assist local forces in directing their own efforts.

In decided contrast with the previous year, only one tornado assumed the proportions of a major disaster. This occurred on April 15, in the border sections of Texas and Arkansas with the city of Texarkana as the center. The significant feature of this disaster relief work was the fact that it covered so much rural territory as to make necessary a large number of relief workers.

The famine in China, necessitating relief expenditures totalling more than \$1,000,000 by the American Red Cross was by far the most serious of the foreign disasters in which the Red Cross gave aid.

Builds Up Its Machinery. In connection with the administration of disaster relief measures, an increasing effectiveness on the part of the Red Cross to deal with emergencies was manifested during the past year. In 528 chapters of the American Red Cross there have been formed special committees to survey the resources of their respective communities and to be prepared in case of disaster. In others of the 3,402 active chapters, a network of communication has been formed through which instantaneous relief may be dispatched to any part of the United States.

That its work in this field may be continued with ever greater effectiveness, the American Red Cross is appealing for widespread renewal of membership during its Annual Roll Call, to be conducted this year from November 11 to 24.

## LIFE SAVING CORPS ENROLLMENT 10,000

Growth of Red Cross Life Saving Corps throughout the country continued unabated during the last fiscal year, a summary of the year's achievements by that Red Cross Service shows. There are now 100 Corps with a total membership of more than 10,000 members, of which 1,270 are sufficiently skilled in the work to act as examiners. Among the outstanding achievements of the Red Cross in this field during the last year was the organization at the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, of what is perhaps the largest life saving corps in the world.

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